

**THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR'S REPORT TO CONGRESS  
ON FEDERAL ARCHEOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES  
GSA Control Number: 0236-DOI-AN**

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**ANSWER SHEET: Questionnaire on Fiscal Year 2005 Activities**

***Quantitative Data***

B1	48	L1	19
B2	214801	L2	0
B3	7655	L3	0
B4	0	L4	2
C1	3	L5	0
D1	1639	L6	0
D2	320	L7	0
D3	48362	L8	0
D4	213	L9	0
D5	33	L10	0
D6	99	L11	2
E1	8	L12	1
E2	24	L13	0
F1	0	L14	0
F2	0	L15	11974
G1	No Chg	L16	0
H1	2616521	L17	0
H2	80	L18	0
H3	1439	L19	0
H4	84		
H5	269		
I1	966588		
I2	1033273		
J1	1095749		
J2	12305		
J3	100		
J4	419		
J5	838		
K1	32		
K2	31		
K3	43		

***Attached Material***

A1	x
B5	x
B6	
D7	
E3	
F3	
H6	x
H7	x
H8	
I3	x
J6	
K4	
L20	
L21	

**Narrative Responses**  
(check if present):

LOOT form(s)  
included: \_\_\_ #

Computer  
disk accompanying:

Photographs  
accompanying:

Other materials  
accompanying:

**THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR'S REPORT TO CONGRESS  
2005  
Narrative Responses**

**A1. Briefly (200 words or less) describe one exemplary project or program conducted by your office in this reporting year highlighting its public benefits and research benefits.**

**Pacific Region**

**“Protecting the Overland Stage – Fort Ruby 1862-1869**

An inter-agency archaeological project conducted on the Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge and Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, White Pine County, Nevada

Fort Ruby was established on September 4, 1862, staffed by regular army and Nevada volunteer militia. In 1869, the railroad began transporting mail and passengers more swiftly and cheaply, rendering Fort Ruby obsolete.

**Exploring Fort Ruby’s Legacy:**

With the property line running through the center of the parade grounds, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S.D.A. Forest Service share responsibility for Fort Ruby. The agencies entered into a partnership to explore the archaeological record, and archaeologists from each agency contributed expertise to develop a research plan and organize an excavation project.

**Passport In Time Project (PIT) – August 2005:** A Forest Service heritage program, PIT offers opportunities for volunteers to participate in preservation projects working alongside professionals. The Fort Ruby Project included six PIT volunteers, the refuge’s Youth Conservation Corps, and several volunteers from the local community supervised by FS and USFWS archaeologists. A total of 460 volunteers hours were accrued on this project. The volunteers camped in a nearby FS campground and the refuge headquarters served as the central meeting place.

Goals of the week-long program included locating the Officer’s housing and finding material culture indicative of daily life at the fort. Historic maps and photographs guided exploration, but post-fort development had removed all surface evidence of the buildings.

Excavation of 27 1 x 1 meter units resulted in the collection of more than 4,000 artifacts. Surprisingly, nearly half of the artifacts were related to Native American use of the site. Fort records note that Western Shoshone camped outside the post during the winter and the soldiers provided them with blankets and food. The artifacts reveal that Native Americans have been camping at the site for about 4500 years.

Evidence of the Officers’ living area included a privy, a line of posts, and

numerous artifacts. Architectural materials including machine cut (square) nails and thin window glass indicate buildings dating to the 1860s. Household items relating to an Officer's higher status include ceramic tableware, etched glass, and a soup tureen lid. The unusual discovery of a porcelain doll's head suggests that families with children accompanied Officers to the Fort. Military items were limited to a button and ammunition including percussion caps and Minie balls. The preliminary results of the testing project are encouraging."

### **Southeast Region**

The Arkansas Archeological Survey submitted the report "Cooperation Then and Now" Archeological Investigations at the Wallace Bottom Site, White River National Wildlife Refuge, Arkansas" fulfilling the stipulations of ARPA Permit 3AR179-122002 and a historic preservation grant received from the National Park Service by the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma. The Wallace Bottom Site is believed to be the location of the 17<sup>th</sup> century Quapaw village of Osotouy and locations of the French Arkansas Post dating between 1686 through 1741. The archaeological investigations were conducted under the supervision of John H. House, Station Archaeologist at Pine Bluff, and Carrie Wilson, the Quapaw Tribe's Cultural Resource Manager. The work consisted of the excavation of two blocks and completion of the archaeogeophysical mapping of the site (Fig. 1). The blocks, which were selected based upon the results of earlier archaeogeophysical mapping, revealed a midden-filled trench thought to be the foundation of a colonial era 18<sup>th</sup> century Indian or European structure and a large pit containing early 18<sup>th</sup> century European and Indian artifacts, animal bones, charred plant remains, and debris from a burned structure (Figs. 2 & 3). As House and Lockhart (2005) noted, the Wallace Bottom Site is eligible for placement on the National Register of Historic Places. The on-going investigations will enable the development of an agreement between the Quapaw Tribe, the Region, and other interested parties for the management and interpretation of the site (Fig. 4).



Figure 1. Survey work on the Wallace Bottom site



Figure 2. Excavation units on the Wallace Bottom site



Figure 3. Excavation unit on the Wallace Bottom site

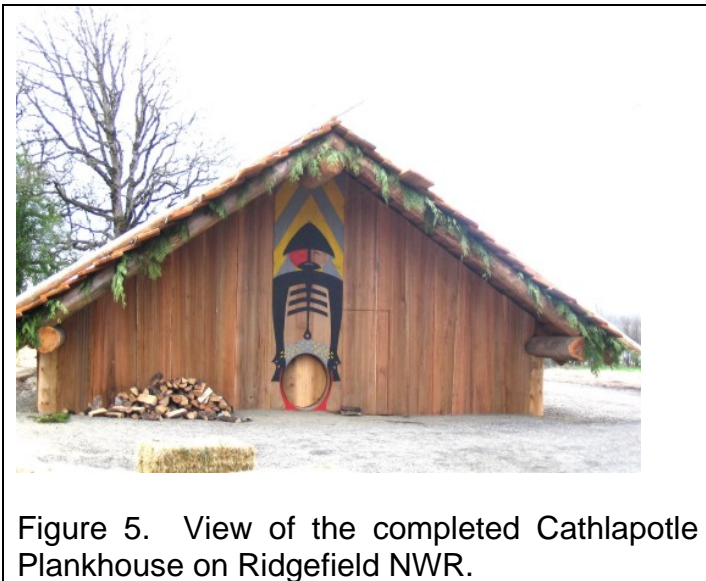


Figure 4. Quapaw tribal members visit the excavation.

**B5. Briefly (200 words or less) describe one exemplary partnership, education, or outreach program/product conducted by your office in the reporting year.**

### **Pacific Region**

The **Cathlapotle Plankhouse Project** (CPP) is a manifestation of our public education program which involves the construction of a full-scale Chinookan cedar plankhouse which will serve as the physical infrastructure for interpreting to the public the stories of the land and people of Ridgefield NWR. A door opening ceremony was held 29 March 2005, just 199 years after the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery first visited the Cathlapotle village. The CPP has already drawn more than 100 volunteers to the Refuge and has succeeded in raising over \$500,000 in grants and in-kind donations. The structure (Figure 5) is open to the community, to students, to tribal members, and to tourists alike. As an official site on the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail and a unique representation of traditional native architecture, it will continue to benefit both the local Ridgefield economy as well as the region's economy long after the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial ends in 2006.



### **Southeast Region**

In Fall 2003, Northwestern State University of Louisiana conducted an archaeological field school at the Fish Hatchery 2 Site (16NA70) located on the Natchitoches National Fish Hatchery (Figs. 6-9). The site, which is buried beneath approximately one meter of alluvium, was occupied during the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries. It appears to be part of a larger precolumbian community located within the floodplain of the Cane River. The ceramic assemblage seems to be more closely related to the ceramics from the Catahoula Basin and central Louisiana rather than the Caddo assemblage found upstream in the Red River drainage. The site's occupants greatly relied heavily on wild plant foods, such as hickory and acorn, as well as white-tailed deer, turtle, and fish. Evidence for



cultigens is limited to maize. The Fish Hatchery 2 Site was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in August 2005.

In July 2005, further auger testing was conducted to locate a culturally sterile area between 16NA70 and the Fish Hatchery Cemetery (16NA9). The latter site, an early historic Caddo cemetery, substantially disturbed during the construction of the National Fish Hatchery in the 1930s. The primary objective of the 2005 testing was to locate an area that could be used by the Caddo Nation to permanently re-inter human skeletal remains and any associated artifacts that came from the Fish Hatchery Cemetery.

Hatchery staff with the support of the Friends in Support of the Hatchery and the Caddo Nation received a grant from the Cane River National Heritage Area for the development of a second historical interpretive exhibit. The exhibit, which draws upon the results of the earlier archaeological investigations, will depict an excavation in progress, an archaeologist's tool kit, and a range of artifact types. The artifacts will come from the University's Department of Anthropology, Jereldine Redcorn, and the Caddo Cultural Museum. Ms. Redcorn is a noted Caddo potter from Norman, Oklahoma. The exhibit seeks to raise the public's awareness about the Caddo Nation's long and rich history as well as to educate them about the need to protect and respect fragile and non-renewable archaeological sites.

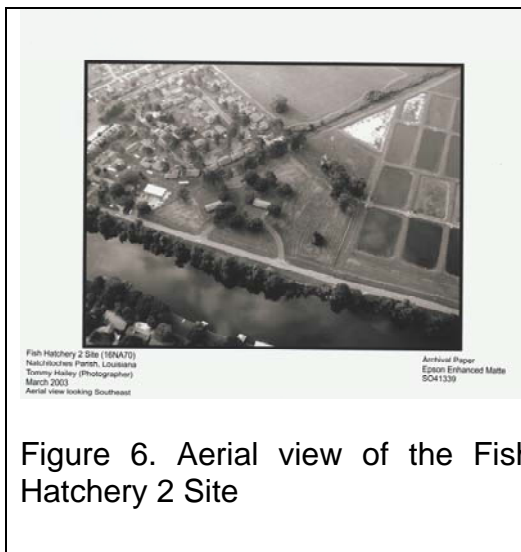




Figure 8. Excavations at the Fish Hatchery 2 Site



Figure 9. Visitors view excavations at the site.

### **Rocky Mountain Region**

A new exhibit concerning the invention and use of airboats will open in mid-March 2006 at the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge in northern Utah. Invented by biologists at Bear River in 1943, the boats are now used throughout the world as an efficient way to travel through wetlands and marshes. As a part of the exhibit one of the original airboats built at the refuge was restored and is on display.

### **Alaska Region**

In Summer 2005, in partnership with the Kenaitze Indian Tribe's culture camp we moved a National Register eligible cabin from its site and reassembled it at the Tribes K'Beq interpretive site. Tribal youth participating in the camp, documented the cabin prior to its being dismantled. Kenai National Wildlife Refuge employees, led by Gary Titus, dismantled the cabin, ahead of a wildland fire that posed a moderate threat and moved the parts to a boat landing on Skilak Lake. The youth loaded the cabin on a truck, followed it to the interpretive site and offloaded the remains. The next week, after the fire threat abated the youth returned to the cabin site and excavated the foundation and floor of the structure .

**G1. Describe how the agency is maintaining and improving the management of records for collections, permits, sites, and inventory. Include a description of any data-sharing efforts between your office and other organizations. If there is no change from previous years, indicate no change.**

Regions are refining their data in light of new cultural resource performance measures associated with an agency-wide Annual Performance plan. Additionally, an updated ARPA permit application has resulted in a reexamination of standards and practices with respect to ARPA permittees on USFWS lands.

**H6. When was the agency policy for management and preservation of its collections established or last revised, if different? How is it being implemented?**

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service Manual chapter on Museum Property was established in 1997. In addition, an archaeologist, designated as the Regional Museum Property Coordinator, provides guidance and tracks archaeological material at non-Service repositories. Accessioning and cataloging of collections is coordinated at the Regional level. A national contract with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers is continuing to provide information about the location and condition of old archaeological collections in the Region. And a newly established Museum Property workgroup aids in communication between all staff responsible for the management of these collections.

**H7. List the museums/repositories curating agency collections. If there is no change from previous years, indicate no change.**

No change

**I3. Does the agency have information on economic benefits from archeology, such as recreation visitor use days and dollars spent by visitors on heritage tourism? If so, describe.**

Although exact figures are not available, many Regions report an increase in visitor attraction to historic structures on Refuges. Specifically, these include Civilian Conservation Corps camps, of which the USFWS has many located on several of its Refuges.